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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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1-16-1920

## Justice (Vol. 2, Iss. 3)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 2, Iss. 3)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteous-  
ness I hold  
fast, and will  
not let it go."  
— Job. 37, 4.)

# JUSTICE

"We ought to  
be just even to  
our enemies."  
— Pres. Wilson.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

VOL. II. No. 3.

New York, Friday, January 16, 1920.

Price 2 Cents

## Decision Over N. Y. Cloak Dispute Expected Soon

The Arbitration Board appointed by Governor Smith last week to adjust the wage controversy between the cloakmakers and the manufacturers has not yet reached any decision.

The reason for the delay in the negotiations is entirely due to the stubborn and evasive tactics of the manufacturers. They have resorted to all possible pretexts in their endeavor to hinder the proceedings of the Board. They first pleaded for postponement on the ground that they need more time for preparation. Then they wanted some extra time for the Board to familiarize itself with the situation in the cloak industry. Then again they claimed that some workers failed to return to work within the specified time agreed to by the Union representatives. But all these "arguments" have been effectively dealt with by Meyer London, Morris Sigman and Israel Feinberg. The Board of Arbitration has declared itself in agreement with the Union.

The manufacturers found particular cause for airing their protestations against further proceedings of the Board when Meyer London declared that "the workers have a right to demand a higher wage and, if they don't get it, they have a right to walk out." He denied that the agreement between the workers and the man-

ufacturers prevented any worker from asking a wage increase. "And if one worker has a right to quit employment, then all the workers have," continued London.

J. Rapoport, one of the cloak manufacturers, vehemently protested against such rights of the workers and has called upon his colleagues to leave the conference. But the Board remained unmoved by these threats and was determined to proceed with its work.

The manufacturers then proceeded with their ancient tales and tangle of figures and assertions which were dissolved under the masterly cross-examination conducted by London, Sigman, Feinberg, Miss Perkins and Frayne into one dominating hunger for profits.

The demand for a 30 per cent wage increase is based on sufficient facts and figures which show conclusively that the present earnings of the cloakmakers do not square with the present cost of living necessities. Regarding the claim of the manufacturers that they cannot afford to pay higher wages, Meyer London had a good deal to say on the subject of profitsteering in the cloak industry. "Few manufacturers," London declared, "have gone into bankruptcy of late years, and there were not two employers who were bankrupt during the last season."

The decision of the Board,

which is final, will be rendered after an examination of all the data submitted. The nature of the evidence presented by the Union is sufficient guarantee that the Board will grant the demand of the workers.

The Board holds its sessions in the Industrial Commission rooms, 230 Fifth Avenue. The labor representatives of the various locals of the Joint Board who composed the delegation that conferred with the Governor attended. Among those present were Brothers Langer, Metz, Wander, Bresdauer, J. Heller and many others.

## BOSTON CONTROVERSY SETTLED

General Secretary Baroff, who is now in Boston, sent a telegram to the effect that the controversy between the Cloakmakers' Union and the manufacturers of Boston has been adjusted with a victory for the workers.

One of the chief gains of the Boston cloakmakers is an increase in wages of 10 to 20 per cent above the minimum scale. This victory followed prolonged negotiations and conferences between the Union and the Association of that city. Secretary Baroff who visited Boston at frequent intervals participated in the conferences and helped to bring the dispute to a successful end.

## Waistmakers' Union Calls Employers to Conference

In a letter sent to the manufacturers' associations of the dress and waist industry, the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25, requests them to meet Union representatives in conference & discuss important questions affecting that industry.

The chief question to be taken up at the proposed conference will be the demand for a wage increase for all the workers in the industry in order to meet the cost of living which is rising daily. The present wages of the ladies' waist and dress makers are not suffi-

cient to make a decent living.

The Union expects an early reply from the manufacturers' associations. The manufacturers, the Union hopes, will see the justice of the workers' demand and grant the request for a conference.

At a series of meetings held by the Ladies' Waist and Dress Makers' Union, Local 25, for all branches and boroughs of the city, the demand for higher pay was ratified by the membership. The question has been under advisement by the union Executive Board for some time.

## GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS IN BOSTON

Members of the General Executive Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union have gathered in Boston last Wednesday for their quarterly meeting to review the activities of the past three months and lay plans for the future.

These meetings are of tremendous importance in dealing with the host of new problems that are constantly arising in our International.

The present Board meeting will be of special interest as it follows close on the heels of the brilliant achievements by all the Vice-Presidents of our International in their respective cities. The reports to be presented at this meeting will be a record of singular victories of a great and

powerful labor body. It will not only be inspiring to the members of the International but to all the workers.

It is hardly possible that the New York delegates will be prepared to present a report of the decision of the cloakmakers' controversy in this city. But the very fact that the proud manufacturers were finally forced to negotiate the dispute is in itself something of which the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union may be proud.

The absence of President B. Schlesinger, who is now in Europe, is keenly felt as his suggestions and advice were of utmost importance in the deliberations of that body.

## President Schlesinger Left Paris for Poland

According to the cables appearing in the Forward, President Schlesinger is tremendously busy in Europe. He is utilizing every minute of his time in familiarizing himself with conditions there.

The news of his departure for Poland has been cabled by the Paris correspondent to the Forward. The cable is as follows:

—Paris January 6, Benjamin

Schlesinger left Paris today for Warsaw, Vilna and Kovno.

"The French Garment Workers' Union as well as other labor organizations have given him a warm welcome. He addressed a meeting of Jewish tailors and also a meeting of the Executive Board of the Garment Workers' Union. Before his departure for Poland, Schlesinger visited the largest clothing factories in Paris.

# Topics of the Week

## The New York Assembly and the Socialists

NEVER before were the activities of the N. Y. Assembly so epochmaking and spectacular as they were during the last week. Its activities blazed forth daily in every edition of the press. It became the subject of discussion of workers, statesmen, politicians, priests and every other human species. It has crowded out of the public mind the "peace" that has been signed in Paris as well as the proceedings of the Congress. There is only one thing of compelling interest: The Assembly at Albany.

What has put Albany on the map is well known. Let us briefly review it. On Wednesday, January 7, immediately following the organization of the new Legislature, the five Socialist assemblymen were paraded down in front of the Speaker's rostrum. They were lined up with the Sergeant-at-Arms on guard while Speaker Sweet delivered an oration which, in part is as follows:

"You are seeking seats in this body—you who have been elected on a platform that is absolutely inimical to the best interests of the State of New York and the United States. The platform is the doctrine of the Socialist Party and provides that every person elected thereupon subscribes to the rules and regulations, principles and tactics of that party."

This remarkable statement that the Socialists are thought-provoking. For one might ask whether the Speaker is not guided by a very definite set of rules outlined for him by Wall Street. But he hastened to add that the Socialist Party "is not truly a political party, but is a membership organization, admitting within its ranks aliens, enemy aliens, and minors."

The Socialist assemblymen were then escorted back to their seats. A resolution was introduced by Simon I. Adler, and drafted by the attorney for the Lusk Committee to the effect that the said assemblymen be excluded from that body pending an investigation by its Judiciary Committee on their qualifications for membership. Only two Democratic assemblymen voted against it. The Socialists were hustled out of the chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

This action of the Assembly has stirred the country to a clearer understanding of the present situation. It shocked not only the workers and the liberal minded people, but the high priests of reaction.

A storm of protest is raging against this action. The New York World, the Globe, the Evening Post, the Journal are some of the papers fighting for the Socialists. Twelve of New York's most distinguished ministers signed a protest against the action of the Assembly. The Bar Association of New York adopted a resolution denouncing the suspension of an American and contrary to the spirit of representative government and calling for a committee of its members to assist in the defense of the five Socialist assemblymen. Charles E. Hughes

is one of the leaders in the fight for the Socialists. Then there are various perfectly respectable societies, clubs, organizations which are pouring resources of protest against the Assembly.

Speaker Sweet and the Luskers are doubtless overwhelmed by this ingratitude on the part of those whom they seek to serve. Have they not acted in the spirit of the Federal Government as it is manifested in the activities of the Department of Justice and the Post Office? Is not Congress pursuing similar policies with regard to the Socialists, in the case of the expulsion of Victor Berger and the preparation of the bill providing death penalty for radicals? Were not our public men and the press preaching the same thing? Speaker Sweet and the Luskers translated the sentiments and thoughts of the ruling class into a deed. But it was an unadorned, violent deed. It revealed with brutal frankness what our rulers are about. They gave themselves away. The Albany legislators cast their parliamentary tactics overboard, and resorted to direct action, to I. W. W. tactics. In that they are dealing a blow to that form of government for which they are shouting from the house-tops. It is for this reason that the Albany statesmen are denounced by their own supporters.

This action also revealed that at the very opening of the legislative session, that august body of statesmen were caught napping. It voted, not knowing what it was all about. The speaker napped for order. The resolution was read. They were asked to vote. They voted. On the next day when they read the press they got badly frightened. They wrung their hands. They conferred that they were stamped, that they were given no chance to think, to debate, to counsel.

Last Tuesday the Assembly was given another chance. It voted again. This time 33 assemblymen voted against suspension. The trial of the suspended Socialists will be held next Tuesday. The Luskers darkly intimate that they have incriminating evidence against the Socialists. The Socialist Party as well as representative government is on trial in Albany.

But the most significant result of this action has been the response of labor. All the unions of the city, affiliated and unaffiliated with the American Federation of Labor, have joined forces to fight against one common enemy. It has whipped the workers into class consciousness. The Labor Party has made common cause with the Socialist party. Labor has awakened to the necessity of united ranks. This action is a great contribution toward teaching the workers of greater solidarity and organization.

## Wanted—A Campaign Issue

THE Republican and Democratic parties are looking for an issue for the next presidential campaign. There are, of course, plenty of "issues." But most of them are so explosive and

dangerous to handle. Recent experience has shown a very annoying tendency in most of these problems. Upon the application of certain remedies these problems break up and multiply. It is much safer to leave them alone. There is not so much trouble in finding candidates for the presidency. But a president without an issue won't do, say the politicians. Therefore the national committees of both parties have arranged sumptuous dinners. But they emerged out of the dinners with no definite program. The Republicans are ready to offer ten thousand dollars to one who will supply them with an "issue." The Democrats will doubtless also offer a handsome compensa-

tion. For at their famous Jackson Day Dinner last week they failed to reach an agreement. President Wilson seems to know what he wants. He wrote a letter saying that the League of Nations and the Peace Treaty should be made the campaign issue. This issue seems to have the looked-for quality. It is a dead issue. It can safely be manipulated. But some Democrats like William J. Bryan fear that this would mean the death of their party. He opposed the President's suggestion. He advised compromise with the Republicans. There is a widespread feeling among the Senators of both parties that the peace treaty and the League of Nations must be buried,—the sooner the better.

## REPORT OF CHILDREN DRESSMAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 50.

What are the conditions in the children's dress industry?

Members of our local are well acquainted with all that took place in our local since June 19th, 1919. The abrogation of the agreement on the part of the Manufacturers' Association was something of vital importance to our organization, but since our organization rests on a sound and solid foundation, the act of the Association did not interfere with our Union.

We have continued our work without interruption dealing with the manufacturers individually, and in doing so we accomplished the best results possible.

In November the Association made an application for an injunction in order to restrain our Union from calling any strikes. This injunction was not only against Local 50, but also against Local 10 and the International as a whole. The application for the injunction did not discourage us, and we proceeded as if nothing had happened. At the request of the Association a conference took place in the early part of December, where Brother Schlessinger and Sonrade London were present. At this conference it was agreed to meet again and see if it is possible to reach an understanding between both parties.

The first obstacle in the way of reaching an adjustment was the fact that the Association had among its members a number of manufacturers who conduct so-called non-union shops, that is, the workers they employ in their factories are not members of our organization, although the agreement provided that the members of the Association were to cooperate and give preference to Union people. We felt that in order that the relationship between the two organizations should be maintained, this condition must be done away with. In addition to this, a number of other questions of vital importance had to be adjusted in order to enable the two sides to renew their relationship. On the 26th of December Comrade Meyer London, who was engaged by the International to advocate the Injunction, argued the case before Judge Davis and the Judge reserved the decision. During all this time, conferences between the Association and Union took place without any definite result.

On January 6th, 1920, Judge Davis decided the Injunction case in our favor, by refusing to grant the Injunction to the Manufacturers' Association.

As I mentioned above the question solving the Union shop matter of the members of the Association was only one of the numerous questions that had to be agreed upon. We had for instance, the questions of the establishment of a minimum wage scale, the establishment of the legal holidays in our trade and a demand of a general increase for our workers. Our workers were not entitled to any legal holidays with the exception of Election Day which they were to stop at noon and be paid for a full day.

Up to January 7th, 1920, the manufacturers were very stubborn and unyielding. On January 7th, after conferring with them for a number of hours, we finally succeeded in reaching an agreement which provided for the following:

1.—That all the members of the Association in order to be entitled to the protection of the agreement are to maintain Union shops.

2.—It was agreed that the workers in our industry observe 3 legal holidays, for which they are to be paid.

3.—That all the workers in our trade receive a general increase of \$3, to begin on Jan. 26th, 1920.

4.—That the Minimum Wage Scale be established for all the workers in our industry not later than August 1st, 1920.

We consider the outcome of the conference as a great achievement for Local 50.

On Thursday, January 8th, 1920, at 5 p. m., all our New York members stopped from work and attended the meeting that was called by the organization. At this meeting the agreement reached between the representatives of the Union and the Association was brought before the members and same was accepted with enthusiasm. Similar meetings took place at Brooklyn and Brownsville.

We are signing agreements with the Independent Manufacturers which we believe will be completed by the end of this week. A new association has been formed by the Independent Manufacturers, but I don't believe that there will be any obstacles in the way of adjusting the matter with them. It is understood that as soon as the signing of the agreements with the Independent Manufacturers will be completed, the same demands will be submitted to the non-union manufacturers whose workers we were organizing for the last few months. This organization will be continued until they will sign agreements with the Union.

H. GREENBERG

# President Schlesinger's Impression of the Amsterdam Congress

(SECOND LETTER)

It usually takes eight and a half days for the "Adriatic" to cross the Atlantic to England. When I boarded the steamer Saturday, November 29, at 11 o'clock in the morning, I had calculated that we would reach London the following Sunday afternoon. But we arrived two days later. This was due to the accident we had met with on leaving New York Harbor. A Staten Island boat collided with the "Adriatic" and it was not before 11 o'clock in the evening that the damage was repaired. This "stoppage" together with a few days of bad weather delayed our voyage.

I am telling this to warn my friends who intend to make this trip against any such calculations as to when they are due to arrive at their destinations. When I arrived in London on Tuesday afternoon, December 7, I was met at the station by Comrade Hodes, Morris Winchewsky's brother-in-law, to whom I had telegraphed from Southampton. The Amsterdam conference was scheduled to begin on Thursday. My passport had not yet been issued by the Dutch Consul in New York so he wanted me to wait four days. There was only one alternative left for me to do. I checked my suit cases, and together with my friend Hodes, rushed to the Dutch Consul in London.

It was about three o'clock when we reached the Consul. I was distressed when the clerk informed me that passports are only issued between 11 and 2, and advised me to come the next day. My friend tried to console me but of no avail. I became desperate. I knew that if I could not leave for Amsterdam the same day I would not be present to the first session of the conference. Before the war one could reach Amsterdam in about 10 or 12 hours. It takes now 22 hours due to the stray mines which the steamer must be careful to avoid.

I stood before the clerk. We looked at each other and thought of the next step. The clerk was doubtless absorbed in finding ways and means of getting rid of me. I was searching for ways of securing my passport visé. I began to hunt in my papers. I showed him letters of recommendation from the United States Department of Labor and Samuel Gompers. I told him how important it was for me to leave for Amsterdam today. I assured him with what profound gratitude I would remember his favor. It was already four o'clock.

The letters worked like magic. A genial smile beamed over his face. To make a long story short, one hour later my friend and I stood before the ticket office with the passport visé, and at 9 o'clock I was on the steamer sailing for Amsterdam.

During my few hours stay in London I had little time to observe things. Then a heavy fog shrouded London which made it impossible to distinguish between the buildings and the people. However, I hope on my return

from Amsterdam to spend a few weeks and familiarize myself with things which would be of interest to the Jewish workers at home and particularly to the members of the Internationals.

There are some things, however, which I did notice. It was between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. My friend, his wife and I were having supper in the Grill Room of the Strand Palace Hotel. People were still enjoying all sorts of beers, wines, and other beverages. I confess I also had a glass of beer. But there was no butter, and instead of sugar we used saccharine pills. The women were not so beautifully dressed as are their sisters in America. Most of them wore last year's styles. The streets were poorly illuminated. Even the famous Piccadilly Restaurant and the great theatres were shrouded in darkness. The railroad stations looked like huge warehouses. They could not be compared to the New York Grand Central or the Pennsylvania stations.

At nine o'clock I took leave of my friends and boarded the train for the steamer. Exceeding my friends, the Consul and his clerk I hadn't met anybody. I did not even have a chance to telephone to the secretary of the Mantle Makers' Union. But I will do so when I will return from the conference.

I arrived in Amsterdam on Wednesday, 7 o'clock in the evening, and the next morning I was the first at the conference.

With great difficulty I secured a room in the American Hotel. My room was on the top floor, and in going up to it with the elevator I got my first surprise. The "elevator man" was a little boy, much younger than my youngest boy, Abe. I was astonished to see such a child a bread winner in a country like Holland where the Social and labor movement was so strong.

But now all sense of surprise has worn off. My next day's stay in Holland was accounted me to those sights. Then I have witnessed things which I will never forget. Yesterday, for instance, I have visited the sections inhabited by the workers and I have seen some things which have burned themselves into my brain. I will tell of my impressions some other time.

Now I want to write about the conference.

The following ten countries participated in the conference: Germany, France, England, Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and America. The sessions continued for three days. A great deal of the time has been occupied by the translation of every statement or address in three languages. Mr. Flynn, the British delegate only spoke English; Mr. Stimmer, the German delegate only spoke German; Mr. Dumas from France only knew French; the Dutch

delegate, Mr. Heppener understood only Dutch.

The debates were conducted in the most cordial manner. Every speaker began his address with "Brother" or "Comrade" yet it was apparent that the hatred engendered by the war was smouldering beneath the seemingly smooth surface. For example, Mr. Dumas, the French delegate, was extremely cordial, yet I have not seen him greet or shake hands with the German delegate during the three days of the sessions.

Most of the time was devoted to reports of the conditions in the clothing industries in the above mentioned countries. The reports were interesting and I have learned more from them than I did from the many books I read on the subjects.

All the clothing workers of every country excepting England are organized in one big union and are under one administration. The number of organized clothing workers has tripled. Before the war there were 50,000 organized clothing workers in Germany; there are now 127,000. The same proportion holds equally true in France and other countries. The ready made garment workers are constantly replacing the custom tailors. This is particularly true in the men's clothing industry. In the ladies' garment industry the master worker still occupies a prominent place. There workers are consequently hard to organize, because most of the work is done in private homes and the workers consider themselves petty bosses. The Union finds it difficult to enforce its standards of hours and wages.

The Unions in every European country are having contracts with employers' associations. There are definite wage scales though they are not uniform. They differ in different countries with the cost of living. The sub-contracting system prevails in the inside shops. A manufacturer, for instance, employing a hundred workers pays wages only to a few dozen highly skilled workers. The rest are working for these skilled workers. In every country the cost of living and the wages has risen a hundred per cent.

The system of piece work still prevails in every country. Although, the workers realize the significance of week work they believe that this change could not be effected before order is restored in Europe. England and Belgium are the only two countries that insist on the immediate introduction of week work while Austria is the only country unconditionally opposed to it. In a letter addressed to the conference, the Austrian Garment Union declared that the workers have greater freedom under piece work than under week work. It is suggestive that the Austrians offer identically the same arguments as those offered by Brother Heller of Local 17, or those presented by the Conference Committee of the Cloak manufacturers early last Summer.

As I said the reports were in-

teresting and instructive. I also believe, however, that the European delegates have learned something from my report. Brother Flynn who represented the Amalgamated Society of Tailors of Great Britain was in complete agreement with all my views.

After a thorough discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

First, an international congress of tailors' organizations to be held in Coenliagen, next August, where a firm basis for a world-federation of tailors should be established.

Second, that a committee of five delegates should between now and the next Congress work out a program which is to be submitted to the next Congress.

Third, that the conference adopt the resolution on the question of piece and week work introduced by the delegate from America.

Fourth, that the committee of five should decide on the question of seating delegates to the next Congress.

The Committee was selected from the delegates who could conveniently come together at given occasions. The following delegates are on the committee: Stimmer, Germany; Dumas, France; Arrup, Denmark; Van der Haeg, Holland, and Flynn, England.

On Saturday the conference closed with an address by Comrade Fenman, Secretary of the Dutch Federation of Unions followed by a beautiful banquet.

## CINCINNATI WORKERS GAIN WAGE INCREASE

After one week of negotiations with the manufacturers, the Joint Board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Cincinnati succeeded in getting increases for all workers in the ladies' garment industry. The cutters received an increase of \$7.00 making the minimum scale \$40.00, and the trimmers also received an increase of \$7.00 making the scale \$35.00. All hand sewers received an increase of \$3.00 above the wages they received last year. The sample makers received an increase of \$4.00 making the scale \$44.00.

All piece workers received an increase of 20 per cent, with the understanding that this will be the last season of the piece work system in this city.

An organization committee has been formed and is working hard to organize the non-union houses. The cutters in these places seem to be the main obstacle in the way of the organization campaign, and a committee from the cutters' union have been very busy, and are using every effort to convince the men in the non-union houses, that their place is in the union to maintain the conditions we have attained.

All the workers wish to thank Vice-Pres. Lefkowitz for his efforts and are well satisfied with the settlement.

JOINT BOARD.

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## EDITORIALS

### CLOAKMAKERS' DISPUTE BEFORE ARBITRATION

The Committee of Arbitration appointed last week by the Governor is still going on with its work. It seems that it is not anxious to be economical with time. But this means that the Committee is determined upon having matters investigated thoroughly. We would be the first to welcome such a patient and minute way of proceeding with things, did we believe wholeheartedly in the necessity of the whole business. It is certainly not the workers who have to be afraid of light and clarification. But the question is whether the situation is indeed so intricate as to give rise to so much ado. Are the threads of the skein so tangled as to require the hands of experts to unravel them?

We hardly think that is the case. To us it seems that the reason for the present trouble in the cloakmakers' trade is so simple that nothing but plain common sense is required in order to find a way out of the difficulty. If the cloakmakers come now forward with a demand for higher wages, it is not because they have at heart aims of a general or theoretical character. They demand higher wages, not because they have decided one fine morning that they cannot be satisfied any longer with the old standard of living, that finer and better conditions of living must henceforth be granted to them. In itself, such a decision would by no means be unjust. The cloakmakers, as anyone else, have doubtless a perfect right to aim at better living conditions. But this is not at all the reason why the cloakmakers are at present demanding an increase of wages. Far from fighting at present for a higher standard of living, the cloakmakers would gladly let things be as they are, provided they could obtain for their wages the same things they obtained six months ago, provided they could buy in 1920 for the same money the same amount of bread and meat which they bought in 1919. The constant depreciation of the value of the dollar, however, makes all this impossible. To retain the minimum wage means, consequently, for the workers to consent to a lower standard of living, means to agree to deprive their families of the bare necessities of life. Can the workers ever agree to this? We do not believe it.

The whole dispute between the workers and the bosses seems this to turn around one point, namely,

ly, around the value of the dollar. The bosses assert that the dollar has at present the same value which it had six months ago; the workers deny this. For an unsophisticated mind, such a dispute could be settled in a simple way. No special commissions, and extensive sessions would be required for this. All that would be necessary to be done would be to ask the first man you meet on the street what he could do at present with a dollar, to send him, for instance, to a grocery and see whether he could obtain for his dollar the same amount of sugar, flour, eggs, butter which he obtained in June of 1919. If such a proof proves to be impossible, the workers must certainly be right in their demands.

We do not believe for a moment that the purpose of the Committee of Arbitration is to expose the awkwardness and stupidity of the manufacturers. Yet, no friend of the workers who was present at the hearings of the Committee, especially at the scenes in which the manufacturers were cross examined by Meyer London Sigman and Feigwer could help being highly amused.

The manufacturers try to make their tale as woeful as possible. To listen to them one gets the impression that it is they who are enslaved. They are entirely at the mercy of the whims of their workers. There is no choice left to them but to accept whatever the workers may decide to force upon them. At first, the workers conceived a fancy for piece work. But soon they got tired of this and they began to clamor for work work. No sooner was this system introduced into the shops than the workers, little mindful of the prices fixed by their agreement, began to demand a raise of \$3. The bosses as always had to submit. The unscrupulous disregard of the workers for the manufacturers has led them so far as to come forward now with a demand for an increase of 30 per cent of their present wages. How ruinous such an increase may prove for the manufacturers, they nevertheless would grant even this for the sake of peace. But this time they are prevented from taking such a step by the parental care of the Association. The manufacturers are thus between the hammer and the anvil. Their plight is indeed pitiful.

Were we interested in the moral to be drawn from this tale we should have reason to be highly satisfied. Here we have a splendid example of how the manufacturers themselves bear witness to

the fact that the Union wielded an immense power, and that the workers begin now, after years of struggle, to give orders, instead of taking orders.

This lesson is certainly of minor importance for us. What chiefly concerns us is the strength of the arguments by which the manufacturers endeavor to show why an increase of wages should not be granted to the workers. And as to this, every impartial judge would have to admit that the arguments were singularly weak. That the whole logical edifice of the manufacturers is built entirely on sand will especially become apparent when their representatives of the workers will get a chance to talk and come forward with their own statements.

For up to the present the floor so to speak, belonged to the manufacturers, and the role of the representatives of the workers was confined to correcting statements made by the manufacturers. It is true, that even in this role, our representatives managed to strike many a hard blow at their opponents. They omitted no opportunity to straighten round statements of the bosses and to show that the statistical data of their opponents were quite often manufactured. And in answer to the complaint of the manufacturers that they are on the verge of bankruptcy, Meyer London boldly accused them of profiteering. They were challenged by London to clear themselves of these indictments. It is needless to say that up to the present, the challenge has not yet been met by the manufacturers.

Our representatives are equipped for their task. They have made a minute investigation of the prices of all articles of consumption. Present prices have been compared by them with those that prevailed six months ago. It is above all this that will speak to the manufacturers to silence and determine the decision of the Committee. And if logic and fair play are given a chance, the decision will not fail to turn in favor of the workers.

### THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Boston has been chosen this time by the International for the meeting of the General Executive Board, which will start at Brewster Hall on January 14. We have sufficient reason to believe that the report of the Committee will this time bring to light achievements no less glorious than those shown three months ago by the reports of the Buffalo meeting.

A survey of the recent battles waged by the cloakmakers displays a series of victories. One stronghold after another has been captured by the workers. The manufacturers of Cleveland, perhaps the most obstinate of all, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Toledo, and finally of Toronto, were compelled to sign an agreement with the Union.

The recent victories are all the more significant as they were won without the leadership of our general. The absence of Schlesinger instead of paralyzing the campaign, as it might have been expected, served as a stimulus for the Union to rely more upon its own resources. The more energetic of the officials of the

Union did not fail to avail themselves of this opportunity. Our secretary-treasurer, A. Baroff, especially distinguished himself in this respect. While attending to his work as a secretary-treasurer he at the same time gave all his energy to the campaign. With his sound judgment, tact, executive ability, he proved himself equal to the great task.

We have to add that the meeting at Boston will be the last of this year. For in the month of May there will take place the general convention of the International.

### THE END OF THE STEEL STRIKE

Gary is once more victor. The steel workers were told last week by their union leaders to go back to their factories.

There can be no doubt that the seeds sown by the present humiliation in the hearts of the steel workers will bear rich fruits in the future. But whatever may happen in the future, it is evident that at present the steel workers have been badly beaten.

The recent victory of Gary and the methods by which this victory has been achieved means not only a disgrace for America and its institutions, means not only humiliation and renewed slavery for the steel workers, but also defeat for whatever hope one might have entertained in the solidarity of the American workers. This victory shows more than anything else that American workers are not yet aware of their own strength, that they do not yet understand what is best for them. Had the workers displayed more sympathy for the steel strikers, had they not allowed themselves to be duped by the ignominious calumnies raised against the workers both in Congress and at the polls, they would not have been able to secure such an easy victory. The fear lest the steel strikers were aiming at nothing short of a revolution misled the American workers to disregard the better sense even of the American Federation of Labor. Left almost entirely to themselves, confronted with starvation, the steel workers had no choice but to surrender.

The workers of New York formed the sole exception. They answered generously to the appeal for help made by the steel workers. The International, especially, was one of the first to pledge itself to contribute a quarter of a million dollars to this noble cause. We are certainly proud of this.

If the workers of America in general have again failed in the examination on the question of solidarity the steel workers themselves deserve the highest credit for the courage, the spirit of discipline exhibited by them in their fight. Two hundred thousand steel workers remained, like real heroes, at their posts until they were ordered by their generals to retire. All attempts to provoke the workers to violence and over-hasty actions proved futile. Hunger and disrepair were able neither to break their convictions nor to make them betray to outsiders the actual state of their suffering.

As an example of an heroic struggle against overwhelming odds the recent steel strike will

# The New Strategy of Labor

By Juliet Stuart Poyntz

In the stationary world of long ago before the war, trade union policy, in England and America, at least, was a simple question of keeping up with the cost of living. Prices rose but slightly from year to year, and the wage scale followed the price scale. In the turmoil of today, however, the workers confront a different problem. Their battle for a decent standard of life is not to be fought on a smooth and level field. There are high hills and deep valleys, barbed wire entanglements and ruined areas and trenches, dismal and cold. And there is the destroying barrage falling upon their ranks from an unseen place by an unseen hand. The simple old rules of labor warfare no longer hold good. A new strategy must be evolved to meet the complex and bitter attack. The enemy today is not merely the boss in the shop. He was an easy enemy, soon disposed of by a walkout and a settlement committee. The enemy today is national and international. It is the terrific cost of food, clothing and housing, the inflated paper money degraded in value low in buying power. It is the high cost of transportation by rail and water. It is the huge burden of taxation which falls finally on the weakest shoulders. It is, in a word, the tottering system of international credit. That is the enemy!

American workers hardly yet understand the magnitude of their problem. A knowledge of one's enemy, his character and resources, is the first necessity American labor movement is for successful warfare. Yet the American labor movement is still applying the tactics of yesterday to the battle of today. The English workers are better prepared for the present crisis. And first of all they know their enemy! They are fighting today not as small isolated units, weak and dis-united, but in a solid front with all forces mobilized. Their policy is far-sighted and broad. It is national and international.

British labor is confronted today with practically the same problems as American labor. There is the enormous increase in the cost of living which is 250 per cent of the pre-war level. Railroads, mines, factories, shipping, which were under a measure of social control during the war, are all being thrust back into private hands, regardless of the profiteering and increase in the cost of necessities which this involves. The enormous

doubtless mark one of the most splendid pages in the annals of the labor movement of America. Let us hope that this defeat will at least help the workers of America to realize who are their friends and who are their enemies. As to the steel workers themselves, we are certain that this defeat will be considered by them as a temporary halt, as a truce, which will enable the workers to gather new forces for a more decisive struggle.

war debt hangs upon the nation like a crushing weight. The budget or housekeeping expenses of the nation are eight times what they were before the war, and cannot be paid out of income. In other words the nation is running further into debt every day. More than half a million workers are unemployed, and of these all the civilian workers, about 135,000, have been deprived of the small unemployment pay which kept them from starvation. The trade union movement is being foiled in each reasonable attempt to bring order out of chaos, to pay the national debt out of a levy on capital and to nationalize the basic industries. At the same time armed forces are being sent at enormous cost to all parts of the world at the behest of the imperialists to keep down the rising tide of democracy. Matters could hardly be worse in England. But they are only a replica of conditions in France and America. It is very important therefore for us in America to observe how the British workers fare their problem.

The "khaki" government which still holds power in England is a government of bankers and profiteers. So lacking in principle are they that they retain as their leader, Lloyd George, who was before their bitter enemy, but stands now as a catspaw of reaction to entice the masses to swallow the unappetizing bait which Parliament prepares for them. This government has introduced no measures of social reform or reconstruction, it has not solved the pressing problems of housing, unemployment or food. It has opposed labor at every point, and with fair means and foul.

Labor, on the other hand, has been gathering its forces for a terrific struggle. At the forefront of its program it has placed nationalization—of mines, of railways, and other basic industries. This demand has the support not only the political influence of the Labor Party but also the industrial force of the great organizations of Labor, especially of the Triple Alliance composed of miners, railwaymen and transport workers. The Miners' Federation, with almost a million members, has fought for a year a desperate battle for nationalization of the mines, on the industrial field, in Parliament, before the bar of public opinion with the Coal Commission. Their demand is now for the adoption of the Majority Report of that government Commissions which after long and careful inquiry recommended nationalization. The railwaymen under J. H. Thomas have not enjoyed such fearless and unflinching leadership as that of the miner's president, Robert Smillie, but they have won a nation-wide strike for better wages, and they are supporting entirely the Labor Party and the Trade Union Congress.

The last meeting of the Trades

Union Congress which took place two or three weeks ago shows clearly the present temper and intentions of British labor. The great national problem of labor were on the program for discussion, nationalization, unemployment, the cost of living, intervention in Russia. The spirit of the delegates was at white heat, and one member of parliament who dared defend Koltchak and the Russian war was well-nigh mobbed. Great indignation was expressed at the abolition by the government of the out-of-work pay which was established at the end of the war, without making any other provision for the unemployed workers.

The Miners' Federation had prepared for the Congress a carefully thought out program of reform. Their proposals for dealing with the high cost of living were especially valuable. The milk supply should be taken over by the cities and controlled so that the price should not rise above 12 cents a quart. The privilege of manufacturing margarine should be restricted to prevent profiteering. All small boats owned by the government should be placed at the disposal of cooperative societies of fishermen. The destruction of fish and other food for the purpose of raising prices, should be punished by law. Duties on tea, coffee and sugar should be removed at once. With regard to clothing an effort should be made to eliminate styles and furnish a large number of standardized garments for sale. The war-control on prices of cotton and wool must be reestablished to prevent profiteering on raw material. Railroads and shipping should be taken over by the government under a system of public ownership and democratic control.

Nor was the fundamental cause of the high cost of living neglected, that is, inflated money and credit. Here a sweeping and revolutionary proposal was put forward, namely, that "in order to enable the community to control effectively the volume of credit in circulation and to prevent the inflation which results from excess of banks and credit, the banking system of the country be immediately nationalized and that the burden of the war debt be immediately removed by the method of a substantial levy on capital."

A resolution was adopted by the Congress as a whole protesting against "the continued indifference to the abnormal profiteering engaged in by the large commercial and monopoly interests controlling the essentials of life. We declare that the excessive profits made by those controlling the vital needs of the community are the primary cause of industrial unrest, detrimental to the interests of the workers as producer and consumer and injurious to the community by maintaining a high cost of production without compensating advantages to the people." As a means of

supply and demand it was recommended that the government should take immediate steps to secure effective control of raw materials required for the manufacture of vital commodities, including the materials required for house-building and the production of food and other essentials of life.

The congress heard the reply of Lloyd George to the deputation which they had sent to him to inquire about his future Russian policy. Upon learning that the government did not intend to make peace with Russia, while admitting its inability to give further financial or military aid to Denikin and Koltchak, the Trades Union Congress expressed its profound dissatisfaction and called upon the government to consider the peace overtures made by the Soviet Government and further to raise the blockade and allow trade between Russia and the outside world. A committee was appointed to visit Russia and report on conditions there, but later reports indicate that passports were refused by the government.

The question of nationalization was the most serious one before the Trades Union Congress, and the cause for its being called to gather. Everybody recognized that it would require all the strength and determination of the labor movement to force this measure upon an unwilling master class. It was finally decided to adopt the policy of watchful waiting, either to give the government another opportunity to meet the demand, or to postpone action in view of the possibility of a general election in February, and the return of a Labor majority to Parliament. If there is no election and if Parliament still refuses nationalization, a further Trades Union Congress will be called to consider drastic means of forcing the hands of the government. "We do reaffirm," declares the Congress, "the decision of previous Trade Union Congresses that the complete national ownership and control of land, mines, minerals, railways and other means of transport is the only effective method of securing for the community adequate protection against the operation of monopoly and profiteering interests."

Thus are the forces of British labor concentrated with enlightened leadership for their great task. The generalship is masterly. Blow follows on blow until the final stroke at the heart. Whether that will come through a general election and a Labor Parliament, or whether it will come by direct action in the clash of industrial revolution remains to be seen—and perhaps in the next few months

# IN OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

## BRONX UNITY CENTER Public School No. 54, Intervals Ave. & Freeman St., Bronx.

Friday, Jan. 16th, 8 P. M.—Second Lecture on Music—Concert—Lecture, by Mr. Herman Epstein.  
Saturday, Jan. 17th, 2:30 P. M.—Lecture on Health by Dr. Griel.  
Saturday, Jan. 17th, 3:30 P. M.—Gymnastics and Social Recreation under direction of Miss Nassof.

## SECOND BRONX UNITY CENTER Public School 42 Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway

Friday, Jan. 16th, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Literature.

## HARLEM UNITY CENTER Public School 171 103rd and 104th Streets between Madison & Fifth Aves.

Friday, Jan. 16th, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Literature.

## BROWNVILLE UNITY CENTER Public School No. 84, Stone & Glenmore Aves., Brooklyn.

Friday, Jan. 16th, 7:45 P. M.—Lecture on Literature—Galsworthy's "The Mob" by Miss Ellen A. Kennan.

## WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER Public School No. 40, 320 East 20th Street, Manhattan.

Friday, Jan. 16th, 8 P. M.—Concert—Lecture by Miss Marian Bauer.

## HARLEM UNITY CENTER Public School 171 103rd and 104th Streets between Madison & Fifth Aves.

Tuesday, Jan. 20th, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on The Labor Movement—Trade Unionism.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Health by Mrs. Remy.  
Friday, Jan. 23rd, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Literature.  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## BROWNVILLE UNITY CENTER Public School No. 84, Stone & Glenmore Aves., Brooklyn.

Wednesday, Jan. 21st, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on Health by Dr. Sara Greenberg.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 7:45 P. M.—Lecture on Trade Unionism by Miss Margaret Daniels.  
Friday, Jan. 23rd, 7:45 P. M.—Lecture on Literature—"Man and Superman" (George Bernard Shaw).  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd—Gymnastics and Social Recreation—Miss Mary Ruth Cohen.

## WAISTMAKERS' UNITY CENTER Public School 40 320 East 20th Street

Tuesday, Jan. 20th, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on Trade Unionism by Miss Margaret Daniel.

Wednesday, Jan. 21st, Class in Arithmetic under Mr. Friedman.  
Friday, Jan. 23rd—Lecture on Music—Concert Lecture by Miss Marian Bauer.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 7:45 P. M.—Gymnastics and Social Recreation under direction of Lucy Retting.  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER Public School No. 63, 4th St., near First Ave., Manhattan.

Monday, Jan. 19th, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on The Labor Movement—Trade Unionism by Arthur E. Albrecht.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 7:45 P. M.—Lecture on Literature—"Strife" by Miss Ellen A. Kennan.  
Tuesday evening—Gymnastics and Social Recreation.  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## BRONX UNITY CENTER Public School 54 Intervals Avenue and Freeman Street

Tuesday, Jan. 20th, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on The Labor Movement—Trade Unionism by Mr. George Soule.  
Friday, Jan. 23rd, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Music—Concert Lecture by Mr. Herman Epstein.  
Saturday, Jan. 24th, 2:30 P. M.—Lecture on Health by Dr. Griel.  
Saturday, Jan. 17th, 3:30 P. M.—Gymnastics and Social Recreation under direction of Miss Francis Nassof.  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## SECOND BRONX UNITY CENTER Public School 42 Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway

Monday, Jan. 19th, 8:45 P. M.—Lecture on The Labor Movement—Trade Unionism by Mr. George Soule.  
Thursday, Gymnastics and Social Recreation—Miss Berenson.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 8 P. M.—Lecture on Health by Mrs. Keafer.  
English—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## WORKERS' UNIVERSITY Washington Irving High School Living Place and 16th Street

Saturday, Jan. 16th, 2 P. M.—Course in Tendencies in Modern Literature by Mr. B. J. R. Stolper.  
Saturday, Jan. 16th, 3:30 P. M.—Economics of the Industrial System by Professor Leon Ardron.  
Sunday, Jan. 17th, 10 A. M.—Class in Practical Psychology by Dr. Samuel A. Tannenbaum.  
Sunday, Jan. 17, 11:30 A. M.—Class in Public Speaking by Gustaf F. Schulz.  
Sunday, Jan. 17th, 11:30 A. M.—English: Speech Improvement by Herman Gray.  
Thursday, Jan. 22nd, 7:30 P. M.—Class in Labor and Management by Professor Lee Wolman.

The Opening Celebration of the Second Bronx Unity Center.

Public School 42, Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway, will take place on Friday evening, January 23rd, 1920, 8 P. M. Admission Free to members of the International and their families. There will be a good musical program and good speakers.

Re-Union and Dance of the students of the Brownsville Unity Center, Public School 84, Stone and Glenmore Avenues, Brooklyn, will take place on Saturday, January 24th, 1920, 8 P. M. Admission Free to members of the International and their families.

Opening Celebration of the Harlem Unity Center, Public School 171, 103rd Street between Madison and Fifth Avenues, will be held on Saturday, January 31st, 1920, 8 P. M. A musical program and good speakers will be presented. Free to members of the International and their families.

Second Celebration of the Waistmakers' Unity Center, Public School 40, 320 East 20th Street, will take place on February 14th, 1920. Dance and entertainment will be given. Admission Free to members of the International and their families.

Tuesday evening of this week Miss Margaret Daniels gave the first of her series of lectures on Trade Unionism. She discussed the place of the individual in the Trade Union and the question of what ideals as a Trade Unionist that individual should have. Members of the Union should take this series of lectures, for while they undoubtedly do know more about economics and the Labor movement than the average person since they themselves are a large part of that labor movement. They should continue to study this subject for that very reason, in order to keep pace with

it. Miss Daniels will lecture on this topic at the Center every Tuesday evening at 8:45 P. M.

The newly organized class in arithmetic meets after the English classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 9 o'clock. All who wish to take this subject should register with Mrs. Redig who is at the Center Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Retting is endeavoring to organize classes in mandolin and in swimming. Anyone who desires either of these activities should give her name and address.

## WORKERS' UNITY CENTER. P. S. No. 40, 320 East 20th St.

Those who did not hear Miss Marion Bauer's first Concert Lecture on Music at the Worker's Unity Center, P. S. No. 40, 320 East 20th Street last Friday evening missed something which they could ill afford to miss. Miss Marion Bauer is not only a composer and critic, but a genuine lover of her art, and is inspired by a desire to give to others what she has learned thru years of study and experience.

Last Friday evening Miss Bauer talked of art in general, its place in life, its correlation to the other arts, and what the art of Music in particular can mean to, and do for, us.

By popular vote of the class, Miss Bauer is to take for her topic next week "Folk Songs of all Nations." Russia is particularly rich in folk songs, and they will undoubtedly form a large part of the lecture. She is to bring with her a pianist especially skilled in playing these songs, therefore if the members of Local 25 wish a real treat, they should not fail to attend Miss Bauer's class at the Center, Friday evening, January 16, at 8 P. M.

## To All Cloamakers, Ladies' Waist Makers, and Reefer Makers

All members of the cloakmakers, waistmakers and reefer makers unions will meet at the annual ball of the House Dress, Kimono and Bathrobe Makers' Union, Local 41, I. L. G. W. U., which will be held this Saturday, January 17th, in Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue.

Those who will attend the ball are assured of a good time. They will have an opportunity of meeting their comrades from all other locals and their own local, getting acquainted with them and perhaps forming life-long friendships. The evening will be full of surprises for the visitors both in the unusual gathering which will be there and in the special arrangements made by the committee for the entertainment of the guests.

Among the visitors there will be some of the general officers of the International and other prominent leaders of the labor movement.

Music for the dance will be furnished by Prof. Schiller's Union Jazz Band. Admission, including wardrobe and war tax is only 50c.

If you want to have a good time, meet old friends and make new ones, come to this ball.

Remember—this Saturday, January 17th, in Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue.

## The Women's Trade Union League

The Women's Trade Union League is carrying on a membership drive for 500 new members. The membership fee is only \$1.00 per year.

The Women's Trade Union League has been in the field for years helping the unorganized women, and probably a lot of you don't know that it helped the Waistmakers' Union to get organized. It is at present engaged in helping the following trades: Feather and Flower Workers, Candy Workers, Copy Holders, Nurses, Manicurists and Hairdressers, Laundry Workers, Teachers.

It is of vital importance to us that these women be organized, so we believe that the Waistmakers ought to become members of the Women's Trade Union League and in that way each in her small way will help to push along the work of organization among women.

A committee will take memberships at the membership meeting. The League is planning to send a committee around to shop meetings, so do what you can by joining yourself and inducing others to join.

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# THE WEEKS' NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By SAM. B. SHENKER

## To Adopt Amended Constitution

A special meeting for the purpose of finally adopting the amended constitution will be held this Saturday, January 17th, 1:30 P.M. at Arlington Hall. The Executive Board has decided not to submit any other business to the membership at that meeting, thus making it impossible to devote the entire afternoon for the adoption of the constitution.

Members are urged to attend the meeting, as conditions in the various branches of the women's garment industry at the present require the concentration of all of the union's attention to its betterment. Hence not to adopt the constitution at the coming meeting will require another session, diverting thereby, energies that could profitably be used in other more important directions.

## Tickets for 11th Annual Ball Out

Tickets for the Cutters' 11th annual ball have been printed and are ready for distribution to the Business Agents to be sold to the membership. The affair takes place Saturday evening, March 27th, at Hunt's Point Palace, 163rd Street and Southern Boulevard. Admission is 50 cents per person including wardrobe. The price, as will be seen, is within reach of everyone, and every cutter is urged to get a supply for himself, his family and friends. There is every reason for believing that the 11th annual ball will range with record-breakers. By that date the union will have still further improved trade conditions and the members will have something to rejoice over.

## Renew Your Working Card

The attention of the members is again called to the need of taking out the working cards now in effect. Those of the cutters who are working on the card issued last season should not fail to exchange it for the new one. Members who have secured jobs should not fail to take a card out. Business agents of all branches are about to begin the seasonal control of the trade and members who are found without cards or who are working on last season's card will be summoned before the Board. Cutters are also advised to have their dues books in their possession and should show them to the agent upon request.

## New Black Books Out

All members holding Black Books should appear before the Financial Secretary and turn in the old book, which will be canceled and a new one will be issued. Black books expired last month, and new ones should be taken out.

## Executive Secretary Resigns Post

It was with considerable surprise that the Executive Board at one of its recent meetings received the resignation of Brother Elmer Rosenberg as its Secretary. Brother Rosenberg informed the Board that he resigned this post in order to take up duties in connection with the Fancy Leather Goods Workers' Union.

Being confronted with the task

of filling this office with one who knows the work of the union the Board appointed a committee of three to look for a suitable candidate. The most logical candidate who the committee thought could fill this post was Brother Israel Lewin, former Manager of the Dress and Waist Branch. Brother Lewin was not inclined to accept the office, stating that it was his intention to give up holding office in the union at least for the year, as he was in bad need of rest due to his strenuous work in the recent General Strike.

However, the office had to be filled and only one who knows something of the routine work of the union had to be gotten. Hence considerable persuasion had to be exerted until Brother Lewin finally accepted. The Board approved of the committee's recommendation and Lewin will serve temporarily until the membership approves of the appointment.

## Miscellaneous Meeting

An important meeting of the cutters belonging to the Miscellaneous Branch will take place this Monday, January 19th, at Arlington Hall. Reports by the

officers of demands submitted to the various trade association for the improvement of working conditions will be rendered.

## In the Cloak Branch

No doubt members of this Branch are closely following the present situation in the cloak and suit industry. Daily reports of developments are found in newspapers and weekly reports are printed in this paper. All that members of this branch can be informed of here is to watch these columns for a call to a meeting where they will be further informed of what progress has been made with regards to the request for an increase.

## In the Dress Branch

Dress and Waist cutters held their regular meeting last Monday, January 12th at Arlington Hall. It was reported to the members that letters have been sent out in which the employers are asked for a 30 per cent. increase in the wages of the workers in this trade. As yet no definite steps have been taken in that direction. The union is ready to submit proof of the need for an increase. The slack season has been an unbearable one, and if the workers expect to meet living costs for the year 1920 their wages must be increased.

Another matter of importance

reported is that the Locals 10 and 25 are making preparations for a reorganization of many shops. It is no news to the members of this trade that many shops with whom the union has made an agreement failed to live up to the provisions of the pact. These shops as well as the shops that have been opened recently will be organized and the union will take the necessary steps for the purpose of making working conditions decent.

## Attention of Dress and Waist Cutters!

THE FOLLOWING SHOPS HAVE BEEN DECLARED ON STRIKE AND MEMBERS ARE WARNED AGAINST SEEKING EMPLOYMENT THEREIN:

Jesse Wolf & Co.,  
105 Madison Ave.  
Son & Ash,  
105 Madison Ave.  
Solomon & Metzler,  
33 East 33rd St.  
Clairmont Waist Co.,  
35 West 36th St.  
Mack Kanner & Milius,  
136 Madison Ave.  
M. Stern,  
35 East 33rd St.  
Max Cohen,  
105 Madison Ave.  
Julian Waist Co.,  
15 East 32nd St.  
Drezwell Dress Co.,  
14 East 32nd St.  
Regina Kobler,  
352 Fourth Ave.  
Deitz & Ottenberg,  
2-16 West 35rd St.  
J. & M. Cohen,  
6-10 E. 32nd Street.

## LADIES' TAILORS AND ALTERATION WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL No. 80.

# A GENERAL MEMBER MEETING

will take place on

Tuesday, January 20th, at 7.30 P. M.

At Mt. Morris Hall, 1362-5th Ave., New York.

A lecture on Workmen's Compensation will be delivered by H. Sherr before the business meeting will begin.

Executive Board, Local 80,

H. HILFMAN, Secretary.

## MEMBERS OF LOCAL 10 ATTENTION.

## A SPECIAL MEETING

of all Branches of Local 10

will be held this

Saturday, January 17th,

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place.

## PURPOSE:

Final Reading and Adoption of Amended Constitution

## Cutters of all Branches

who are working at present should change their working cards for the new season. The new card will be in effect this Monday, January 5th.

THE UNION  
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY  
Local 35, I. L. C. W. U.  
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Given at

RAND SCHOOL  
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**CUTTERS' UNION OF LOCAL 10, ATTENTION****NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS****MISCELLANEOUS:**

Monday, January 19th.

**GENERAL (All Branches):**

Monday, January 26th.

**CLOAK AND SUIT:**

Monday, February 2nd.

**DRESS AND WAIST:**

Monday, February 9th.

Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.

AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

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BECKER**OPTOMETRIST  
and OPTICIAN\* 215 E. BROADWAY  
\* 100 LENOX AVE.  
\* Open Sunday until 6 P. M.\* 1709 PITKIN AVE. BROOKLYN  
\* 356 POSPECT AVE. BRONX  
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Skirts, Underwear, Etc.*The most perfect and easily learned system taught by  
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**FIFTH GRAND ANNUAL****RECEPTION AND BALL**

of the

**HOUSE DRESS, KIMONO & BATHROBE  
MAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 41, I. L. G. W. U.**

to be held on

**Saturday, January 17, 1920**

in Stuyvesant Casino, 142 Second Avenue

Admission including wardrobe and war tax fifty cents.

Music by Prof. Schiller's Jazz Band

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